

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE,  
AND MINING**

**Seventy-Seventh Session  
March 14, 2013**

The Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining was called to order by Chairman Skip Daly at 12:34 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2013, in Room 3161 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4406 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda ([Exhibit A](#)), the Attendance Roster ([Exhibit B](#)), and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at [nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013](http://nelis.leg.state.nv.us/77th2013). In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (email: [publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us); telephone: 775-684-6835).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblyman Skip Daly, Chair  
Assemblyman Paul Aizley, Vice Chair  
Assemblyman Paul Anderson  
Assemblyman Richard Carrillo  
Assemblywoman Lesley E. Cohen  
Assemblyman John Ellison  
Assemblyman Ira Hansen  
Assemblyman James W. Healey  
Assemblyman Pete Livermore  
Assemblywoman Heidi Swank  
Assemblyman Jim Wheeler

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

None



**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst  
Terry Horgan, Committee Secretary  
Steven Sisneros, Committee Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None

**Chairman Daly:**

[Roll was taken.] We only have three items on our work session agenda today. The amendments are on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS), and I hope Committee members as well as the public have had a chance to review them. We will be taking the bills in order beginning with Assembly Bill 19. Hopefully, everyone is prepared and we will get going. I am assuming everyone knows that, unless you are specifically asked a question, to clarify an amendment for instance, we do not take testimony. Ms. Welden, will you please explain Assembly Bill 19 for us?

**Assembly Bill 19: Transfers the duties of the State Advisory Board of Trustees for the Trust Relating to the Fairground to the Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board. (BDR 50-322)**

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

For the record, I am nonpartisan staff so I do not take positions or advocate for or against any legislation.

[Ms. Welden provided a work session document for A.B. 19 ([Exhibit C](#)).] Assembly Bill 19 was heard by the Committee on February 26. This bill was requested on behalf of the State Department of Agriculture. Assembly Bill 19 abolishes the State Advisory Board of Trustees for the Trust Relating to the Fairground and transfers the duties of that board to the Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board. These duties include reviewing the uses of the real property leased to Washoe County for use as a fairground and reviewing physical changes to fairground facilities in order to ensure that property use related to agriculture and livestock complies with the trust provisions imposed upon the conveyance.

The Committee may remember that testimony indicated that the board that is being abolished was established but has never actually met. Support at the hearing was provided by the Nevada Farm Bureau and the Reno Rodeo Association supported the bill with the amendment. An amendment was

proposed by the State Department of Agriculture. That amendment would add a representative from the Reno Rodeo Association to the Junior Livestock Show Board, and there is a mockup in the work session document ([Exhibit C](#)).

**Chairman Daly:**

That is the bill with the amendment that was proposed by the sponsor. The mockup was created by Ms. Welden. Our legal staff may have slightly different language, but has agreed to carry the intent of the changes being proposed. At this point I would accept a motion on the bill to amend and do pass.

ASSEMBLYMAN WHEELER MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 19.

ASSEMBLYMAN ELLISON SECONDED THE MOTION.

We have a motion on the floor. Are there any questions, concerns, or comments from the Committee? [There were none.]

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I will have Mr. Healey handle the floor statement.

Now, on to Assembly Joint Resolution 3.

**Assembly Joint Resolution 3:** Expresses the intent of the Legislature to establish a biomass industry to restore certain ecosystems on public lands. (BDR R-210)

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

[Ms. Welden provided a work session document for A.J.R. 3 ([Exhibit D](#)).] Assembly Joint Resolution 3 was heard on February 28. This resolution was requested on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Public Lands that met during the interim. Assembly Joint Resolution 3 expresses the Legislature's intent to establish and encourage the creation of a biomass industry in Nevada in order to expand efforts to manage pinyon-juniper woodlands and restore pinyon-juniper and sagebrush ecosystems on public lands for the benefit of economic stability, energy production, hydrologic function, rangeland health, and wildlife habitat.

The measure also encourages Congress to extend the authority of the Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service to enter into stewardship contracts or agreements for management and restoration projects

on public lands beyond the current expiration date, and to extend the maximum length of those stewardship contracts or agreements to 20 years.

Support for this resolution was provided by the Nevada Pinyon-Juniper Partnership, Eureka County, the Nevada Conservation League, the Nevada Association of Counties, and the Nevada Livestock Association. There was no opposition or neutral testimony.

There was an amendment proposed by the Pinyon-Juniper Partnership which is in the work session document on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS) ([Exhibit D](#)). It makes several changes including adding language about environmentally sound and scientifically based principles, adding language about wood-product production, recognizing that pinyon-juniper treatments on public lands are subject to the National Environmental Protection Act, referencing ecosystem resiliency, and several other changes.

**Chairman Daly:**

I think it is pretty clear what we have with Assembly Joint Resolution 3, so I will accept a motion to amend and do pass with the amendment on NELIS.

ASSEMBLYMAN AIZLEY MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 3 WITH THE AMENDMENT ON  
NELIS.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN SWANK SECONDED THE MOTION.

With the motion on the floor, are there any questions? [There were none.]

THE MOTION PASSED. (ASSEMBLYMAN CARRILLO WAS  
ABSENT FOR THE VOTE.)

I will ask Assemblywoman Swank to do the floor statement.

Our final resolution is Assembly Joint Resolution 5.

**Assembly Joint Resolution 5: Urges Congress to take certain actions  
concerning federal public lands in Nevada. (BDR R-208)**

**Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst:**

[Ms. Welden provided a work session document for A.J.R. 5 ([Exhibit E](#)).] Assembly Joint Resolution 5 was also requested on behalf of the Legislative Committee on Public Lands. This bill was also heard on February 28. Assembly Joint Resolution 5 notes that Nevada has an abundance of natural

resources and renewable resources located on public lands that are managed and controlled by the federal government. The resolution urges Congress to ensure that federally managed and federally controlled public lands in Nevada remain open to multiple uses. The resolution also urges Congress to enact legislation ensuring that the State and affected local governments in the state receive a portion of the revenue received by the federal government for activities conducted on federal public lands in Nevada including the continuation of federal laws and policies whereby local governments receive appropriate rents and royalties for activities that generate electricity from geothermal resources.

At the hearing, the Committee heard support from the Nevada Association of Counties, the Central Nevada Regional Water Authority, Eureka County, the Nevada Livestock Association, and the Nevada Committee for Full Statehood. Testifying in opposition at the hearing was the Nevada Conservation League. Their testimony indicated that they wanted to suggest some changes regarding multiple use provisions. Subsequent to the meeting, an amendment was prepared at the direction of the Chair, and you see it on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS). That amendment does add some specification regarding multiple use and also adds some language regarding conservation and recreational use.

**Chairman Daly:**

It is my understanding that the only people in opposition are now fine with the amendment. We were able to get that worked out, and I want to thank Assemblyman Anderson and Assemblywoman Cohen for working on that project. I will accept a motion to amend and do pass A.J.R. 5.

ASSEMBLYMAN WHEELER MOVED TO AMEND AND DO PASS  
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 5.

ASSEMBLYMAN CARRILLO SECONDED THE MOTION.

Are there any questions from the Committee?

**Assemblyman Paul Anderson:**

In meeting with the parties who wanted to make changes to this bill, I also met with Assemblywoman Carlton and Assemblyman Hansen, who were part of the committee that worked on the original intent of the bill, to make sure we had not changed that original intent. They were in agreement with these changes as well.

**Chairman Daly:**

Are there any other comments from the Committee? I view this bill as the "show us some love in the form of more money" resolution.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I do not believe we have anything else on our agenda other than asking Mr. Anderson to handle the floor statement on A.J.R. 5.

Is there any public comment? [There was none.] All right, we are adjourned [at 12:45 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Terry Horgan  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Assemblyman Skip Daly, Chair

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBITS**

**Committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining**

**Date: March 14, 2013**

**Time of Meeting: 12:34 p.m.**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>	<b>Witness / Agency</b>	<b>Description</b>
	A		Agenda
	B		Attendance Roster
A.B. 19	C	Amelie Welden, Committee Policy Analyst	Work session document
A.J.R. 5	D	Amelie Welden	Work session document
A.J.R. 5	E	Amelie Welden	Work session document